

June 1995

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Columbia College Chicago

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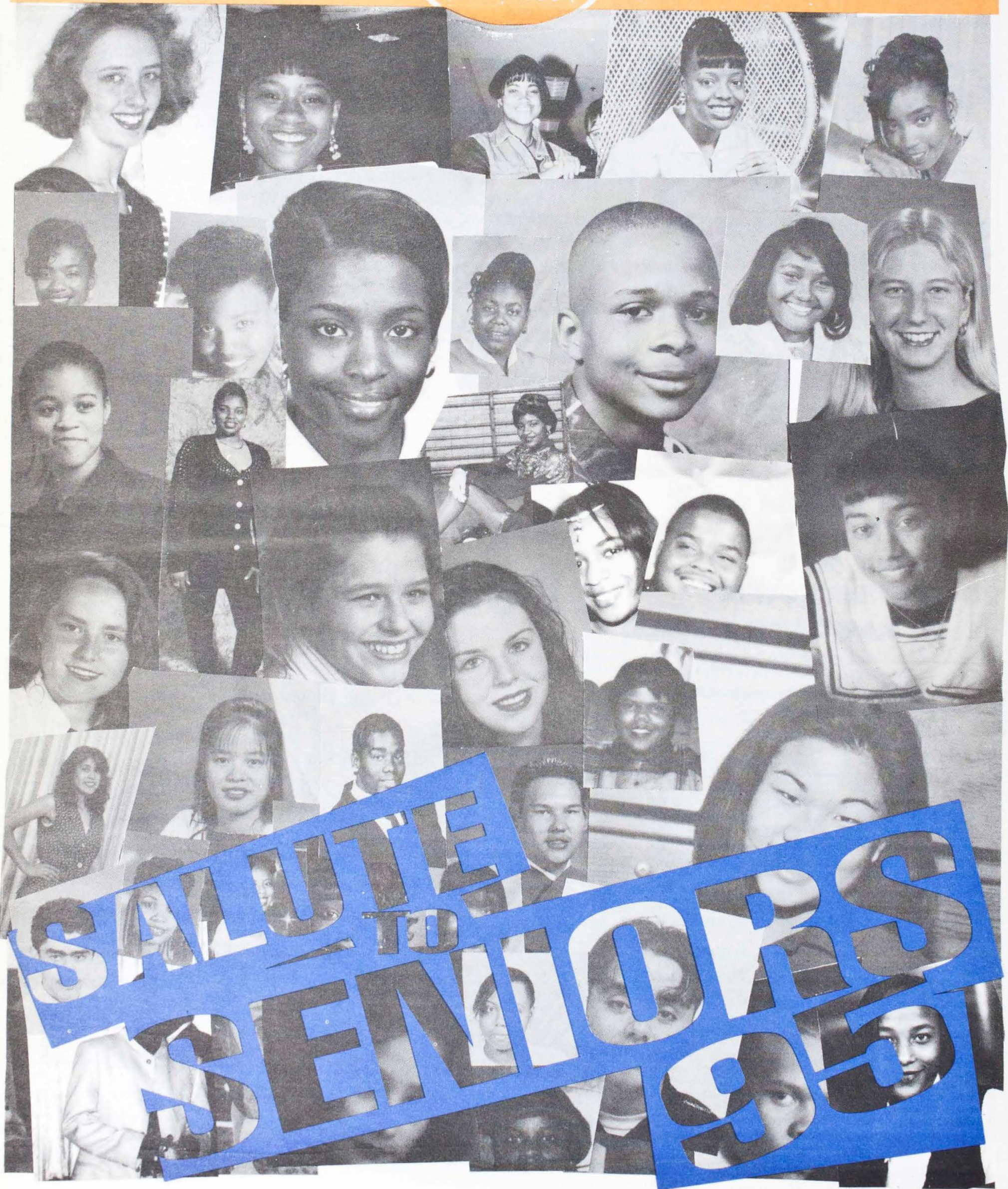
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# special **NE** edition

new expression





**NE**  
 new expression

**SALUTE TO  
SENIORS**

 JUNE SPECIAL  
 EDITION  
 '95

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**NE- JUNE '95**
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**Students Write Daley About New Board**

High School Students Want Seat on New School Board

The Chicago Student Alliance will hand Mayor Richard Daley student letters on June 15 that urge the mayor to include a high school student on the new five-member Chicago Public School board.

No one has yet been appointed to the so-called "Super Board."

Student Alliance is a national group with Chicago members who consist of the presidents of the Student Councils of local high schools. The Alliance is promoting a letter writing campaign called "Add Our Voice!" as an appeal to include a youth voice on the board.

"We want to be participants in our education rather than simply recipients of an education," said Nathaniel Branscomb, president of the Student Alliance and a Hyde Park senior.

Philip Bleicher, executive director of the Student Alliance, said, "The consumers of Chicago Public Schools need to be represented, and we hope Mayor Daley will see the merit in appointing a student to serve on the Super Board."

The old school board, dismantled this past year by state lawmakers, consisted of student representative with no power to vote on issues. The Alliance is pushing for a student with "full voting power."

For more information on how you can become involved in the Student Alliance, call (312) 281-0076.

# NE SENIORS SAY BUH-BYE.



James Shuford, South Shore; Leslie Gray, DuSable; Karla Rivera, Von Steuben; Roman Arellano; Nikita Dixon, Manley





# NE SALUTES SOUTH SIDE SENIORS



CHICAGO AG

**Jarah Braswell**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Natl. Honor Society;  
Honor Roll student; FFA.



CURIE

**Donisha Blanchard**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Student Council, Afro-American Club, Drama Club, Show Choir.



DUSABLE

**LaShanda Bussie**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Battalion Cmdr.  
R.O.T.C., Student Council President.



DUSABLE

**Brian Jackson**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: President of the  
Spanish Club; one of the Top 20 seniors;  
Basketball & baseball player.

The following is an excerpt from a speech given at DuSable high school as part of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday celebration. Van Williams, the speaker, won \$1,000 for performing this speech in a contest. New Expression believes the message is appropriate introduction to our Salute to the Class of 1995.

One of the greatest facts of life is that people are known by the way they act.

Ladies, let's say that you're getting ready for a date. Your boyfriend (or whoever is taking you out) shows up at your doorstep. Now this is a tall, 6 foot 6 inch brother with a decent haircut and a deep (Barry White) like voice. He's wearing a brand new, tailor made Pierr Cardin suit and a trench coat. He's got gold rings on his fingers and he's got flowers for you in his hand. By his appearance alone, you are captivated.

You both decided to go to one of those fancy restaurants with a French name (like Chez Jacques) where they give you bread and a menu and a waiter is assigned to your table.

But at the restaurant, your date talks louder then everyone in the place, he jumps all over the table and pulls off the waiter's toupee. He acts like what some of us would like to call a "stone fool."

When the date is over, you're almost in tears when your best friend calls and asks, "How did everything go?" And the first words out of your mouth are not about the way your date looked or dressed, the first thing you mention is about the way he acted.

I heard a young lady comment that all men are "dogs" because they creep. But my theory is that all men wouldn't be such dogs, if people would stop setting out the Alpo,

My point is this: people are known and remembered by the way they act.

And I challenge you to think. Think about what you want to be remembered by.

Do you want to be remembered as a thug?

Do you want to be remembered as a crook?

Do you want to be remembered as the one who got all the booty-calls and yet couldn't do basic algebra?

Again, think about what you want to be remembered by...

Understand if we are going to succeed as a people and if we are going to make our dreams a reality than we need each other.

We will not excel as a people if all you know how to do is talk about people.

We will not excel as a people if nobody cares about education.

We will not excel as a people if we are ashamed of our history.

We will not excel as a people if all you want to do is go out and smoke bud.

We will not excel as a people if we are afraid to dream.

We will not excel as a people unless we decided to unite and work for what is rightfully ours.

I stopped by to tell you that you are somebody!

I stopped to tell you that you can be anything that you want to be.

I stopped by to tell you that it seems like you're ready to go all the way to the top!

Don't be afraid to dream!

Don't be afraid to try!

Don't be afraid to say what you feel!

You have a right to be free!

Know yourself

Respect yourself

Judge yourself

Examine yourself

Love yourself!





FENGER

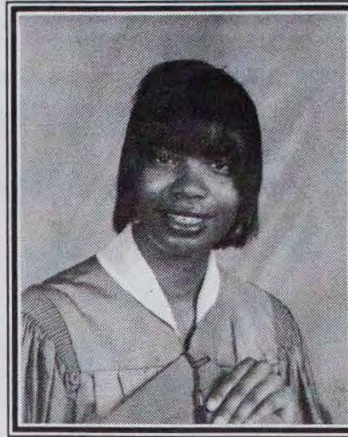
**Sophforina English**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Club, Natl. Honor Society, Businesses Professionals of America, College Club.



HIRSCH

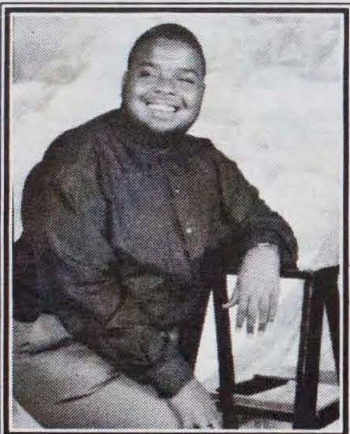
**Kaiti W. Estell**



JULIAN

**Doiorita May**

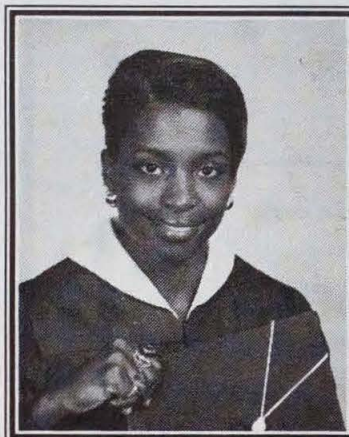
ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Senior Class President; All-American Scholar; President of Principal Scholars; Church Youth Group.



HARLAN

**Demetrias McKinney**

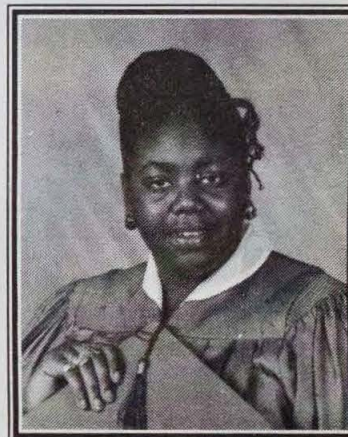
ACCOMPLISHMENTS: All City Chorus member. Goals: To become a chief and a singer.



HYDE PARK

**LaTrise McLemore**

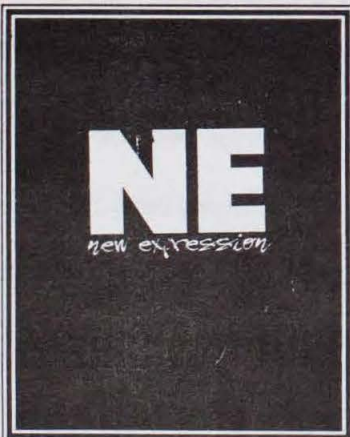
ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Yearbook Club, Future Teachers of America Club, Basket-ball Team.



JULIAN

**Niota McDowell**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Student rep. on Local School Council, First Place Essay Winner in 1995 Principal Scholars Program; President of Natl. Honor Society.



HARLAN

**Sheocki Booker**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: V.P. of senior class; Citizen Award for Chicago Park District; High Academic Honor for four years.



HYDE PARK

**Tenesha Sawyer**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Natl. Honor Society, J.E.T.S., Swim Team, Natl. Spanish Honor Society.

ENJOY  
THE





**NE**  
new expression  
**641-NEWS**

See  
you  
Next  
Year



**LINDBLOM**

**Triano Williams**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Natl. Honor Society; Senior Brothers Council; Lieutenant Colonel in R.O.T.C.; Student Council member.



**LINDBLOM**

**Rosie Love**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Natl. Honor Society; Chicago Intern for Inroads; Ranks No. 5 in class of 134; G.P.A. 4.09.



**MARIA**

**Angel Ciszewski**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Second Place in Northwestern musical competition; Honor Roll; Played grandma Tzeitel in Fiddler on the Roof.



**MARIA**

**Samantha Franks**

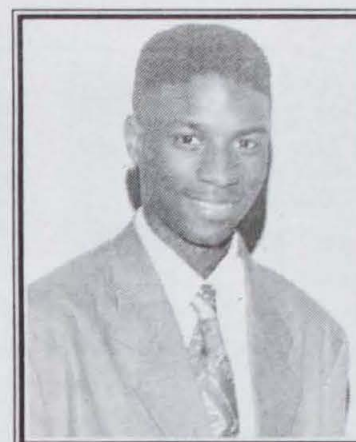
ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Natl. Honors Society; Head of Student Council Dance Committee; 4-year member of the school musical; President of the Thespian Club.



**MORGAN PARK**

**Marquita L. Geiger**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: All American Scholar; Vice-president of Future Teachers of America; published work in the Natl. Library of Poetry.



**MORGAN PARK**

**Michael McRoyal**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Student council president; Junior Achievement's Officer of the Year; Recipient of the Chicago Park District's Junior Citizen Award.



**MORGAN PARK**

**Hadya Jones**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Cheerleader-4 years, French Club, School Newspaper, (Empehi News), Junior Achievement.



**ROBESON**

**Candace Hampton**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Graduation Committee, Yearbook, Bowling Team.

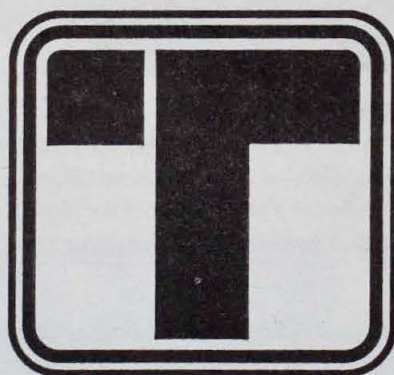
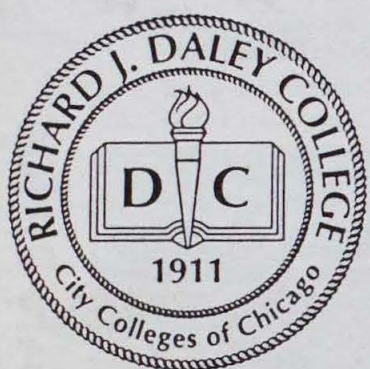
**MORE SOUTHSIDE SENIORS ARE LOCATED  
ON PAGE 8 OF THIS ISSUE.**





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**For information Dial**

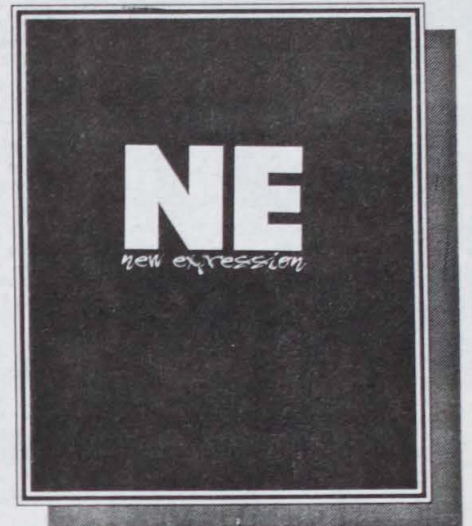
**C • O • L • L • E • G • E**

**312/265-5343**



SALUTE TO SENIORS  
NORTH SIDE  
NE SALUTES  
**NORTHSIDE**  
SENIORS

**LAKE VIEW**



**Rachel Dimas**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Student rep. on the Local School Council; editor of the school newspaper, *The Dispatch*; President of school's French Club.

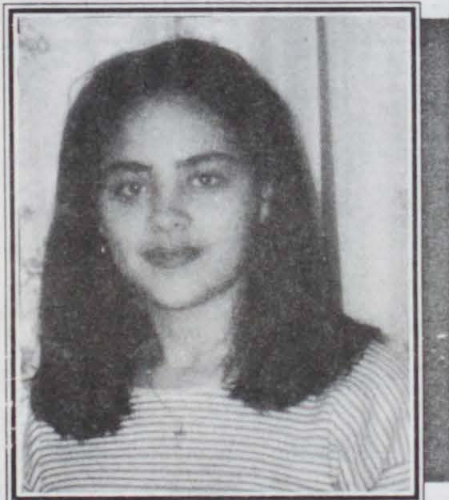
**LUCY FLOWER VOC.**



**Charlette Smith**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Girl's Bowling Team, Peers In Power, Principal's Scholars.

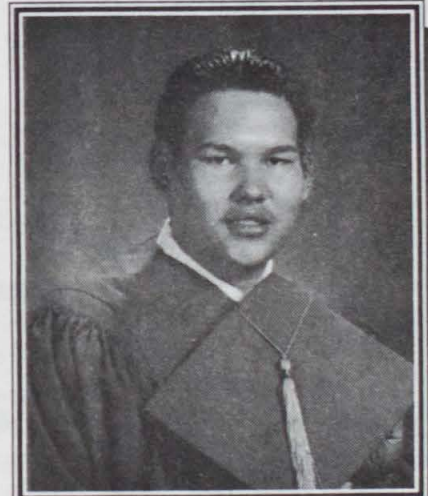
**KELVYN PARK**



**Saral Ghaparro**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

**LANE TECH**



**Adam Dassow**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Golden Apple Scholar of Illinois, Aspira, S.A.D.D., Future Teachers of America Club.

**JONES METRO**



**Angela Diaz**

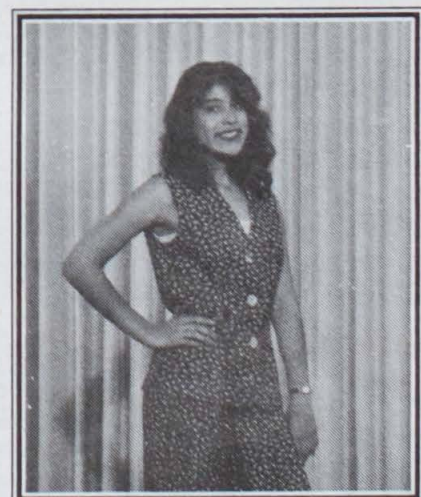
ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Jones reporter, tour guide, Jones, 10% club, Library aide.

**KELVYN PARK**



**Dalizy Serpa**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Four-year scholarship to attend the University of Illinois at Chicago; Battalion Commander of school J.R.O.T.C.; President of Natl. Honor Society and Key Club.



**Griceliea Maria Perez**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Aspira, Organization of Latin American Students, International Dance Club, Student Council.



**ROBESON**

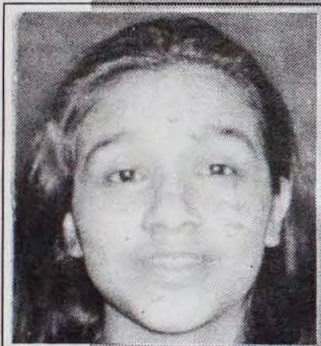
M'Rald Nichole  
Joshua

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**  
Band, Practical Nursing  
Program, Who's Who in  
America, Honor Roll.

**GEORGE WASHINGTON**

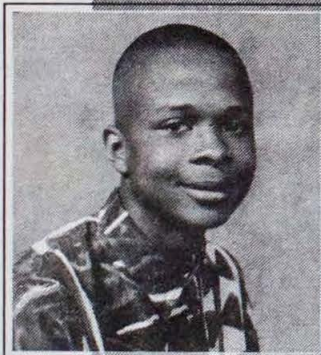
Heather Lindsay  
Corman

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**  
Natl. Honor Society, Swim  
Team, Career Awareness  
Program, Band.

**KELLY**

Argelia Chavez

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**  
Academic Decathlon,  
Junior Red Cross, Law  
Explorers, Key Club.

**FARRAGUT**

Elisha Buckley

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**  
Track Team, Job Readiness  
Program, Senior Prom  
Committee, Principal  
Scholars Program.

**SIMEON**

Tracy Woods

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**  
Band, Practical Nursing  
Program, Who's Who in  
America, Honor Roll.

**PROM NIGHT, COSTLY NIGHT****Ah, prom night!**

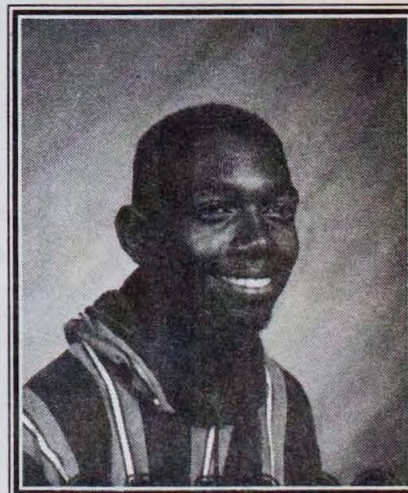
Next to graduation, it's the highlight of the year.

Here's a sampling of  
what some schools charged students for  
and where they went.

<u>School</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Lincoln Park	\$70	Palmer House	May 2
Metro	\$70	Mariott	May 26
Sullivan	\$65-70	Spirit of Chicago	June 2
Mather	\$50-60	Knickerbocker Hotel	June 2
Senn	\$60	Orrington Hotel	June 2
Roosevelt	\$60	Chicago Hilton & Towers	May 26
Taft	\$50	Hyatt Regency Chicago	June 2
Schurz	\$55	Spirit of Chicago	
Foreman	\$65	The Odyssey	May 19
Prosser	\$50	Hyatt Regency O'Hare	June 2
Kelvyn Park	\$50	Westin Hotel O'Hare	May 26
Clemente	\$30	Palmer House	May 26
Wells	\$60	Hotel Intercontinental	May 26
Steinmetz	\$45	Tivoli Banquet Hall	May 26
Lane	\$50	Mariott	May 20
Von Steuben	XX	Ramada Inn O'Hare	June 1
Juarez	\$60	Mid-Continental Hotel	May 12
Farragut	\$50	Hyatt Regency	June 2

**LINCOLN PARK****Alexandra Krull**

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** Student rep. on the Local School Council;  
President of the Natl. Honor Society; Placed 5th in the 100-yard  
breast stroke at the City Championship Swim meet in 1995.

**ST. MARTIN DE PORRES****Jasantonio Hindman**

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** Perfect Attendance-all 4 years, Cross  
Country Team, Basketball Team, Track Team.



**MATHER**



**Rita Lazar** (no photo)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Student Council Key Club, Natl. Honor Society, Yearbook.

**ORR**



**Sharon L. Callico**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Student rep. on the Local School Council, Top 10 in h.s. class, Honor Society member, Modern Dance Club member.

**THEODORE GUERIN**



**Nelson Tiffany**

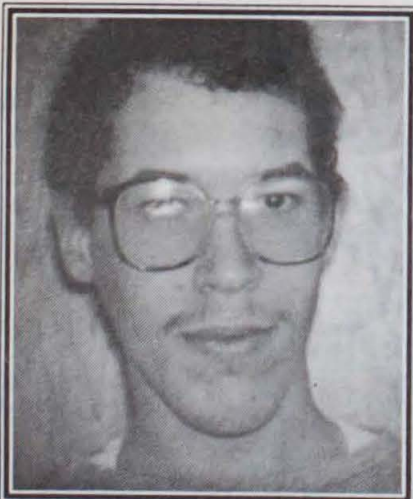
**NORTHSIDE LEARNING CENTER**



**Carrie Cebulski**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Works part-time at the American Eagle Clothing Store in the Lincolnwood Town Shopping Mall.

\*NorthSide Learning Center is a Chicago Public School for young adults ages 15-21 with cognitive disabilities.



**Ramon Pagan**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Office Helper, Passes out his school's daily Attendance Sheet, participates in the Janitorial Work Program.

**SENN**



**Katherine Roselle Lo**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: President of the Future Business Leaders of America; Vice-President of the Filipino Club; National Honor Society member, Band section leader.

**WHITNEY YOUNG**



**Traci English**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Natl. Honor Society, AP Scholar, School Orchestra, Geography Club.



**Helen Ng**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Natl. Honor Society, Illinois State Scholar, Asian-American Club, Varsity Tennis Team.



# 10 SPECIAL EDITION

## THE STEINMETZ SCANDAL

### THE FINAL CHAPTER

The Chicago Board of Education and the Illinois Decathlon Board (ILAD) closed the book on the Steinmetz academic decathlon scandal long ago, finding the team members guilty of cheating.

The cheating at Steinmetz is a good case study in what can go wrong when ambition, arrogance and the desire to win at any cost gets out of control.

The real tragedy is not that Steinmetz's public image is tainted, or even that, once again, the Chicago Public Schools looked bad on the national stage. The genuine tragedy is that the school's Academic Decathlon coach, Jerry Plecki, failed in his job as an important role model to his team, and other students at his school.

While Steinmetz is not known for its academics, their academic decathlon team this past year was made up of some high achievers.

Consider. They have all taken Advanced Placement (AP) classes for college credit. They all label themselves as "bookworms," while some brag about studying for hours on end.

Jolie Fitch, the team's co-captain, is graduating this year, although she is only a junior. Team member Greg Nelson plans to study aerospace engineering. Senior Eric Krysiak, having taken AP Calculus as a junior, is now taking second-year Calculus at Wright College, receiving all As.

Along with being very bright, many members of the group are also very ambitious and arrogant. At the second competition, the regional, Steinmetz scored modestly- 40,000 out of a possible 51,000 points. At the state meet, Steinmetz scored 49,000 points out of the same 51,000 possible. This tremendous jump in scores was unheard of before this year's State competition, since a jump of 3,000 to 4,000 points is considered phenomenal. Even in light of the piles of this seemingly unshakable proof, they all claim to be completely innocent of cheating. No one on the team admits using the stolen test.

"We didn't cheat," team member Tom O'Donnell asserted. Other team members, like Nelson, aren't so sure. "I didn't cheat, but I'm not sure that other team members are as innocent as I am."

As in any group, the power lies with the leaders, the most popular people in the group. In this case, Fitch and co-captain Adam Pawlus led the team and may have known of and planned the cheating with coach Plecki.

John Hahn, the coach of Kenwood Academy's academic decathlon team, which came in third at the State meet, said, "I think it was the dangerous combination of the ambition of the students, which made them vulnerable to the ruthlessness of their coach that caused this tragedy."

Dr. Jerry Plecki, the coach, is by all accounts a very complex person. He taught English to problem students in the JROTC program at Steinmetz. Fitch, who sat in on some of his classes said, "he never liked teaching those classes and longed to teach on the honors and AP levels. He was never nice to them."

Decathlon was a completely different story. "Plecki ran a very tight ship, doing what he thought would help the team win," Maciej Rugar, a junior and team member, said. He "recommended" that the team not socialize with students who were not on the team and to keep conversation about non-academic decathlon topics to a minimum. "Those tactics really helped us win," Rugar said.

Plecki resigned his job as an English teacher after a former team member accused him of cheating in the 1994 competition. Plecki later admitted the cheating to Steinmetz principal Constatine Kiamos, and resigned later that day, still maintaining there was no cheating this year, although one team member says Plecki planned to have a student pose as a judge at the State competition.

O'Donnell has nothing but praise for Plecki, calling him a big brother to the team, somebody who was always there for them. "Plecki was a really great person, coach and motivator," O'Donnell says emphatically. Unfortunately, fellow team members Rugar and Nelson don't share O'Donnell's view. Rugar says he has mixed feelings about Plecki, saying he still has some respect for him but Plecki "hasn't had any contact with us since he left. We feel kind of abandoned." Nelson has the harshest words for Plecki, calling him a "fanatic who would do anything to win."

Despite this, Nelson agrees with O'Donnell that outside school and Decathlon, away from pressure, Plecki was a great person.

In the media, Steinmetz' Academic Decathlon had been described as almost cult-like, a characterization that some team members agree with.

"I probably respected (Plecki) too much," she said. "My parents think he had a lot of influence over me, and, looking back, I did what he asked me to because he was the person in authority. I just got caught up in the atmosphere. It probably wasn't too healthy, looking back on it now."

Many team members agree that the team was very close, and that there was a very strong bond, but not quite like a cult. In fact, the students say they became, in many respects, a family, spending up to six hours a day together. And like a family, when they going got tough, they looked to each other for support.

Heather MacDonald, Kenwood



## Meet the 1994-95 Steinmetz Academic Decathlon Team

**Jolie Fitch**, co-captain of Steinmetz's academic decathlon team, plans to graduate this spring although she is only a junior and attend Iowa State University, where she plans to study Biology. One of the leaders of the team, Jolie believes it is her destiny to succeed, as do several other members of the team. Although she was raised Catholic, Jolie is a solitary witch and practices the Wiccan religion. **Eric Krysiak**, a senior, posted the highest math scores among any of the 5,000 academic decathlon competitors in the nation. He transferred to Steinmetz from the prestigious Phillips Academy, a boarding school in Andover, Massachusetts. A student who takes his studies very seriously, Eric prepared for the competition mostly on his own. Eric is currently taking Calculus classes at Wright Community College, where he boasts a straight-A average, and hopes to attend the University of Chicago in the fall.

**Tom O'Donnell**, a senior, joined the Academic Decathlon team after hearing about it through Steinmetz's chapter of the National Honor Society. Although he was a member of the team last school year, Tom quit before the second competition saying he was unable to handle the pressure and the demands on his time. Tom rejoined the team this year, since he felt he was more willing to dedicate the time needed to the team. Tom will attend Northern Illinois University in the fall to study sociology. **Greg Nelson**, a junior at Steinmetz, finds time to be on the Math Team, bowling team, to participate in Student Government and to work part-time in addition to academic decathlon. Greg hopes to study aerospace engineering, perhaps at Cal-Tech. **Maciej Rugar**, a junior, has only lived in the United States and spoken English for 3 years. Despite this, Maciej attends all honors classes, and carries an A-average. He hopes to study Science and Engineering in College.

**Margaret Reszka**, a senior and an active member in Steinmetz's National Honor Society, immigrated from Poland only four years ago. She will attend the University of Illinois at Campaign-Urbana to study pre-med with a minor in psychology.

Team members Adam Pawlus, Bart Jacisewicz and Chris Bor all had no comment for this story.

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# Dressed For Success

Listen to this fashion statement: a red jacket, white shirt and khakis, all made by Timberlane, and all provided for free. "It's our uniform," says Tom Walsh, Director of Public Relations for City Year, "The clothes help City Year to represent the ideals of service in our physical appearance."

City Year is a National Youth Service Organization which unites young people ages 17- 23 from diverse backgrounds for a demanding year of full-time Community Service and leadership development. City Year is winding-up it's first year in Chicago, and the program has already proven that it can make a difference by lending a helping hand in the community. Corps members, as employees are called, do full time community service such as going into Chicago public grade schools as Teachers Aides, Renovating housing for the homeless, turning vacant lots into community gardens, operating recreational programs for Senior Citizens and running after school programs. Fridays are devoted to education, reflection, and leadership training.

"This program asks people to do a lot," said Walsh. But, there are rewards. Corps members receive a weekly stipend of \$ 125 and upon graduating they are eligible for up to \$ 4,725 in post service awards for college tuition, job training, or other life changing opportunities. City Year also

offers GED classes for those who need them.

"What's amazing about this program is the diversity," said Walsh, "We have people here who didn't finish high school, and we have some people who have degrees from Northwestern. We also have every race and ethnic group represented, plus, our corps members come from every economic background."

Walsh admits there have been problems along the way, but, over the past year, City Year has proven that diverse people can work together.

Here's the best part, RIGHT NOW, City Year is looking for new corps members for next year! If you're interested, stop by the City Year office 545 N. Michigan (next to the Timberlane store) and fill out an applications. Or, call City Year's admissions department at 464-9899.

**Lekeishia McGee, Harlan**



Kareme Young, 18 says that he joined City Year "to gain money for college at the end of the year."



Tiffany Chiang, 18 says that she "joined City Year to work with a diverse group of people while learning about the social issues the society faces."



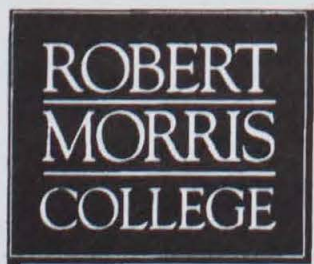
Kimberly Hollinquest, 20 says that she "joined City Year because G.E.D was offered, and City Year has been a hands on experience and I liked working with the children."



David Kaletta 20, also stated that he joined City Year so that he could have money for college.

*Shaun Gayle  
of the  
Chicago Bears  
says:*

*"Education gives you  
the opportunity to  
pursue your dreams.  
Choose Education...  
believe me it's the best  
choice you'll ever make!"*



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## The 8 Commandments of College

"If thou desireth to enter into college, then keep these commandments."

1. Thou shall not lose sight of your main reason for going to college. If you find several colleges that meet your most important requirements, then let other preferences help you choose.
2. Thou shall not let others decide for you.
3. Thou shall not be passive, following the lead of your friends.
4. Thou shall not apply to colleges if you don't really plan to attend, just to make your parents proud of you or to impress your classmates.
5. Thou shall not be fooled into believing that the harder a college is to get admitted to, the better it must be. Your task is to find the one that seems best for you.
6. Thou shall not procrastinate.
7. Thou shall not avoid applying because you think you won't be accepted.
8. Thou shall expect to find one college that is perfect in every way—the one and only best choice for you.

*Adapted from the College Entrance Examination Board.*

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\* Veteran Children's Scholarships

\* Scholarships for Minorities

There are over \$20.4 billion available to students from private sector scholarships.

For information on obtaining these scholarship lists, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: The U.S. Channel of Commerce for Higher Education, College Bound, P.O. Box 773, O'Fallon, IL 62269.

## DON'T HATE: COMMUNICATE

A CONTINUING DIALOGUE ON RACE RELATIONS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY AT & T

Chicago is known the world over for its uniqueness. It is home to the Sears tower Magnificent Mile, Marshall Fields, and Frank Lloyd Wright Architecture.

But it's also home to one of the world's best-known examples of racism and segregation.

A person can walk down the street in Chicago and witness dramatic changes in the neighborhoods just blocks away from each other. In extreme cases, the various ethnic groups separate themselves by rail-road tracks and busy streets.

Beginning this month, **New Expression** is devoting an on-going column to cover racial relations, with an emphasis on

solutions. Funding for this column is provided by AT&T.

On Chicago's South Side, Morgan Park High School is making an effort to improve race relations among teens with the help of two programs.

First, the International Studies Program, created by French teacher Ruth Lenzycki, is designed to expose students to different cultures and languages. Second, the Academic Center, a special seventh and eighth-grade program, was made in an effort to expose younger students to more challenging classes and to different cultures.

Dr. Stanley Strom, coun-

selor for the Academic Center, said "the purpose of the program is to provide a cultural and international experience for the students."

He estimates that a couple hundred students are participating in the program. One such student is Jeanine A. Davis, a senior student in the Morgan Park Academic Center. She feels that the Center has broadened her horizons.

"In sixth grade, I didn't know anybody but Black kids," she said. "When I came to Morgan Park in the seventh grade, I met Hispanic and Chinese kids. Their ways of living are so much different than mine. Now that I'm a senior in high school, I have a greater appre-

ciation for different cultures."

Carlos Spaulding, a freshman at Morgan Park, resides in the West Side of the city. He was supposed to attend his area school Farragut. He came to Morgan Park through the International Studies Program.

"Because of where I live," he said, "I couldn't go there, so my counselor got me in Morgan Park."

At Morgan Park, Spaulding feels that he is safe.

"It's a good school," he said. "And everybody gets along."

Ramirez Albizu, a junior at Morgan Park, was supposed to attend Farragut high school also. He was afraid to start school

there because his area and Farragut's area house rival gangs.

But at Morgan Park, "Nobody knows me...it's safe."

He added, "And they don't fight because of color or anything."

Hispanics aren't the only students who said they benefit from the program. Black students like Dawne Washington, benefit also.

"My cousins are like 'You got Mexican friends?'" said Washington, a senior at Morgan Park. "But I don't look at them like that. I think of everybody as being the same."

**Adrienne P. Samuels,**  
Morgan Park



# NE

*new expression*

**IT'S ABOUT  
YOUTH...  
IT'S ABOUT YOU.**

## 641-NEWS

### Congratulations!

**David Orr**

Cook County Clerk



Salutes the Class of '95

**Best Wishes!**

Don't Forget:

**Register and Vote!**

# FREAK-NIC '95

**IF YOU DON'T WANNA PARTY THEN YOU SHOULD GO HOME!**

Imagine traveling to a city full of half-naked, sexy people between the ages of 16 to 27.

Imagine being able to talk to anyone you want, kiss anyone you want, touch anyone, and hug whoever appeals to you. Add to this scenario loud "bootyshake" music, tall glasses of Coca-Cola, balmy 80-degree weather, an occasional 40-year-old, and a general feeling that time is standing still.

Do you know what you have imagined?

**FREAK-NIC.**

Freak-nic's a three-day party held every year in Atlanta, Georgia. The original sponsors of the event were the men of Morehouse College and the ladies of Spelman College. They got together in Piedmont Park to throw a huge picnic for the students of the Atlanta Universities. This picnic was a great success and every year, it attracted more people. Eventually, the picnic grew to such proportions that students came from across the United States to participate.

The "freak" in Freak-nic refers to sexy people who are "down for whatever." In other words, people who have zero inhibitions about they do in public.

After discovering this mecca of Black college students, several promoters offered their services to "Freak-nickers" by hosting concerts in Piedmont Park. As the number of attendees grew, the party was forced to expand over a course of days and space. Now Freak-nic is celebrated throughout Atlanta, with the hub of events happening at the AU Center, located centrally among the Atlanta Universities.

This year, the "nic" was a little different. Visiting students encountered setbacks. Atlanta Mayor Bill Campbell didn't share in the merry-making, even though the Freak-nic crowd spends an estimated six million dollars during the event.

The city was not pleased with the crime and traffic and hotel jams of last year. But college students argued that all 81 people arrested last year were Atlanta residents, the majority of whom were older than the average college student.

This year, several streets were closed off to non-Atlantians, including major expressway exits into downtown. The National Guard was enlisted to help with crowd control and extra police were required to work longer shifts. The city also took back the permit required for the students to part in Piedmont. Additionally, concert permits were taken away from promoters.

The idea behind this was to discourage Freak-nic. But a popular T-shirt expressed the sentiments of the students. "They told us not to come, but we came anyway."

And they did. Over 200,000 Black college students came to Atlanta from April 21-23. When they found that the exits to downtown Atlanta barricaded, they parked on the expressway, turned on their sound systems and partied on top of cars. The closed off residential streets and parking lots became party-zones where DJs set up speakers, played music, and gave prizes to the "most scantily-dressed" and "best bootyshakers."

"The Underground," a mall in downtown Atlanta, became "the spot." Outside of the mall, people milled in the streets, taking pictures with strangers and recording on video beautiful people walking around. A common sight were men walking around with pythons and boa-constrictors and couples getting very intimate on the street. Also common were men in G-string bikinis and women in "daisy-dukes" and high-heels.

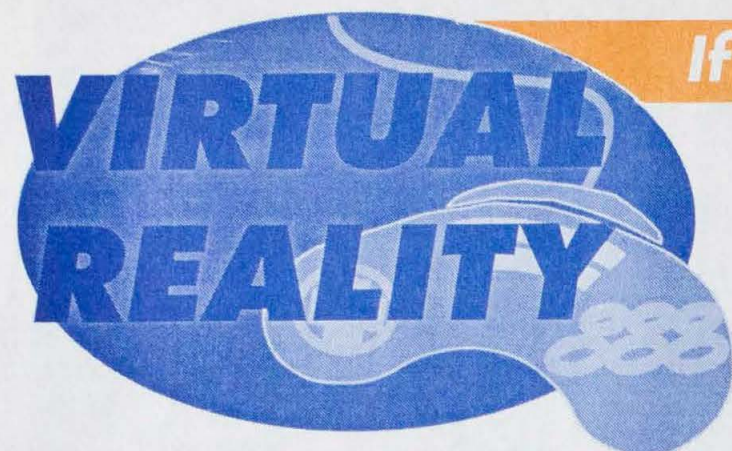
"I felt like I was in a Luke video," Chante Spann, an Atlanta college student, said. "The freaks were everywhere! The men were fine and I got a whole bunch of numbers."

The future of Freak-nic is uncertain. Since Atlanta is site for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games, city officials are not sure if they city can handle all the people. But students say with or without the cities endorsement, the "Freak-nic" will be celebrated every year.

Adrienne P. Samuels, Morgan Park



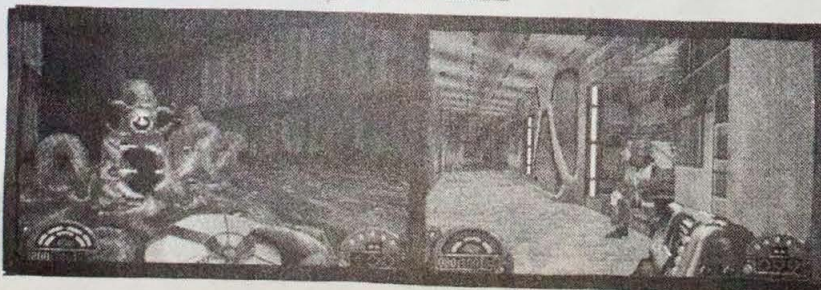




If you ain't figured it out you're worse off than I thought

## star wars **DARK FORCES**

"Freeze rebel scum!" Ever wonder what you'd do if an Imperial storm trooper said these words to you? Well if you're anything like me, you'd level your phaser gun and blow him away. Which brings us **Dark Forces**, the newest **Star Wars** gunfight. You play a rebel agent who is sent on dangerous missions inside Imperial fortress after fortress. It's a shoot 'em up walkabout with too-cool, eerie graphics and a real gunfight at the OK Coral feeling. The detail of the **Star Wars** scenery is great, and the background visuals are fantastic. However, the maze type mapping of the fortresses is only two-dimensional so that when you're on one level, you can't see any others. That makes the game more challenging or more frustrating depending on your level of experience. The enemies show up with startling rapidity and the pace of the game is sure to send your heart-rate through some changes. Plus, the technologically enhanced, yet human features of your character give this game an "I can do this" feel. But, be warned, you'll need more than confidence to get through this one.



## **EaRtHwOrM JIm** **SpECIAL eDiTiOn**

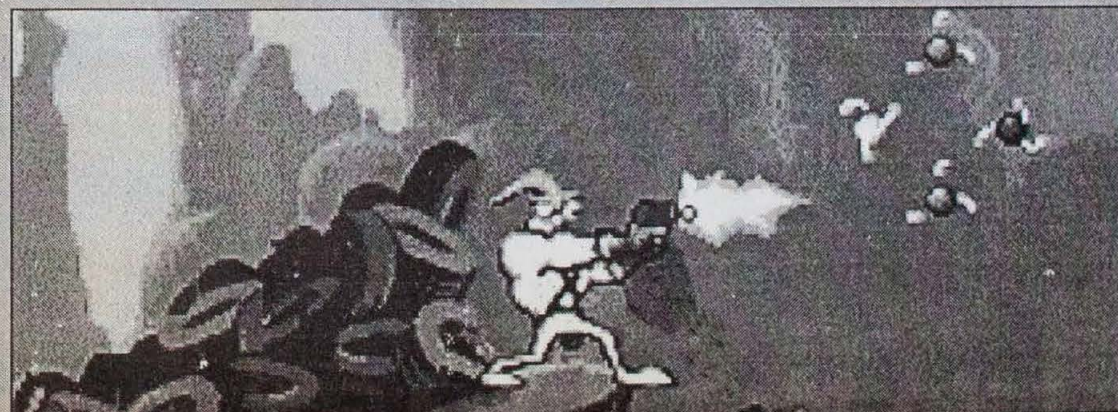
This is absolutely the year of the worm!

First, Earthworm Jim squirmed his way into our hearts, now he's squirming his way into his first SegaCD adventure: **Earthworm Jim - Special Edition**.

The game is based on the original 16-bit cart adventure, but has some incredibly awesome and hilarious new animations, additions, and changes to the levels you thought you knew. Don't be surprised if the ground moves six inches further right in this version. This game also has an all new level called **BIG BRUTY** and includes **BUTTVILLE**, which was a level found only in the Genesis cart. EWJ also has new toys for blasting the bad guys, such as homing missiles.

Call me psychic, but I know this game will be the SegaCD game of the year — trust me. The control is perfection. The animations are smooth-flowing and crisp. The gameplay is great and the access time is lightening quick. In fact, it's hard to notice anything wrong, because it's so much fun playing EWJ-SE. It takes whipping, and blasting to new heights!

EWJ will be worming his way onto broadcast TV, too. Watch for Earthworm Jim in his own animated series on the WB network this fall — that's channel 9 in Chicago. Also watch for the wormser in EWJ2 — coming soon — and EWJ action figures. **Busy Worm.**

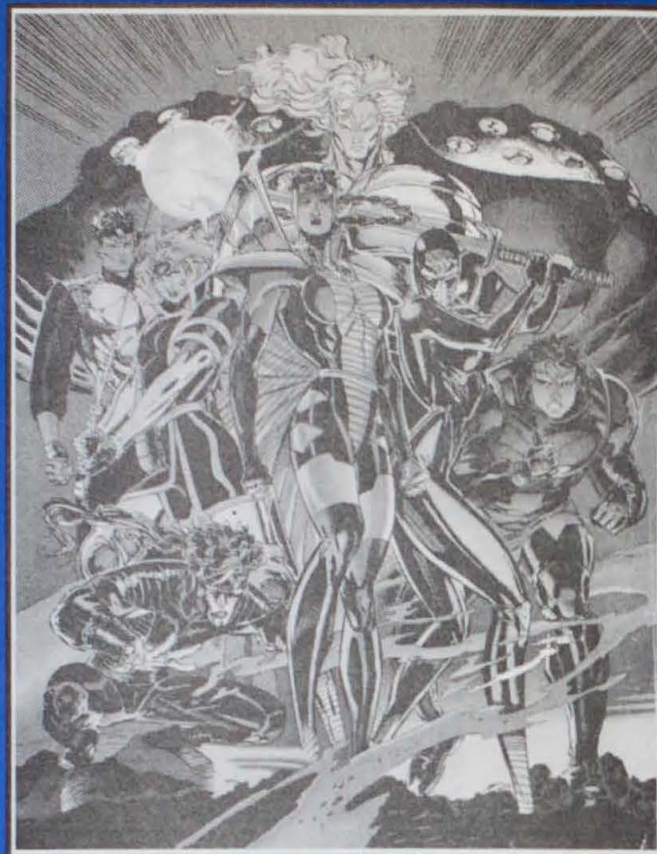




# DESCENT

Mutant Mining Machines put the fun back into DOS, the keyboard, and those expensive joysticks with Descent. Blast! Blast! Blast space aliens with Rockets! Rockets! Rockets! ... Ooops they're not space aliens, they're self-regenerative mining craft, hovering dangerously throughout an underground mining operation. Somehow? Anyway, you are the pilot of a specialized mine fighting machine and, the best part, you hover weightlessly, too! Float forwards and backwards, left and right, and up and down — three-way rotation! And talk about easy ... install, start, play space blaster ... I mean Descent. Besides being a space blaster, the game challenges you to graphically and mnemonically (as in remember) work your way through a maze, blasting to the rising music. Oh, yeah, there's always a few little human-type hostages in blue space suits (in the mine) whom you get a bonus for rescuing. But, don't get yourself blasted, or then you lose. Descent was entertaining from the moment I took it out of the box ... and, tell your friends, it supports modem, network, and serial hookups for two-player action. Any space blasters? ... I mean, takers out there? Prepare for Descent.

# MARVELING OVER DC COMICS AND S7



"With Sovereign Seven, I feel the opportunity has come to give back to this medium the love that I got from it years ago"

Alert! All Chris Claremont fans! One of the bestselling comic writers of all time (the man who brought you the critically-acclaimed X-Men) has teamed up with former Wolverine artist Dwayne Turner to bring you the Sovereign Seven. New from DC Comics, S7 is the tale of seven super-powered beings who "hop" through time and space, and who accidentally crash-land on Earth.

Upon arriving in a small New England town, they interrupt a botched alien execution. From there, you'll be introduced to the entire team as well as a team of crazed, super-powered women (Who knew?). Every member of the S7 has a uniquely different personality or attribute, although there's nothing you haven't seen before — which is not to say that there's nothing original about this book. Take, for instance, the character Indigo whose gender is unknown, yet, who has the ability to be attractive to either sex. That trait, coupled with his amazing concealment powers, makes Indigo the most unusual character in the book.

Dwayne Turner's pencils are terrific, in that they suit Claremont's storytelling. Claremont, himself, is very enthusiastic about this new project. So, of course, are the many Claremont fans who will make the journey from Marvel to follow the man who created stories such as the "Dark Phoenix Saga." The cover price is \$1.95; not a bad price for a book sure to take off with the force of a rocket.

FreeWill Lee, Hyde Park

## MICRO BYTES

from Reality Bytes

☛ The "Saturn" was the big news in May's Reality Bytes. In case you missed it, Sega's latest and hottest game system and the first among the next generation 32 bit+ platforms, has arrived in Chicago. The current shelf price is \$399, and it comes with a blockbuster pack-in -- Virtua Fighter. The controller is an eight button thumb exerciser and the system is currently completely CD-ROM based.

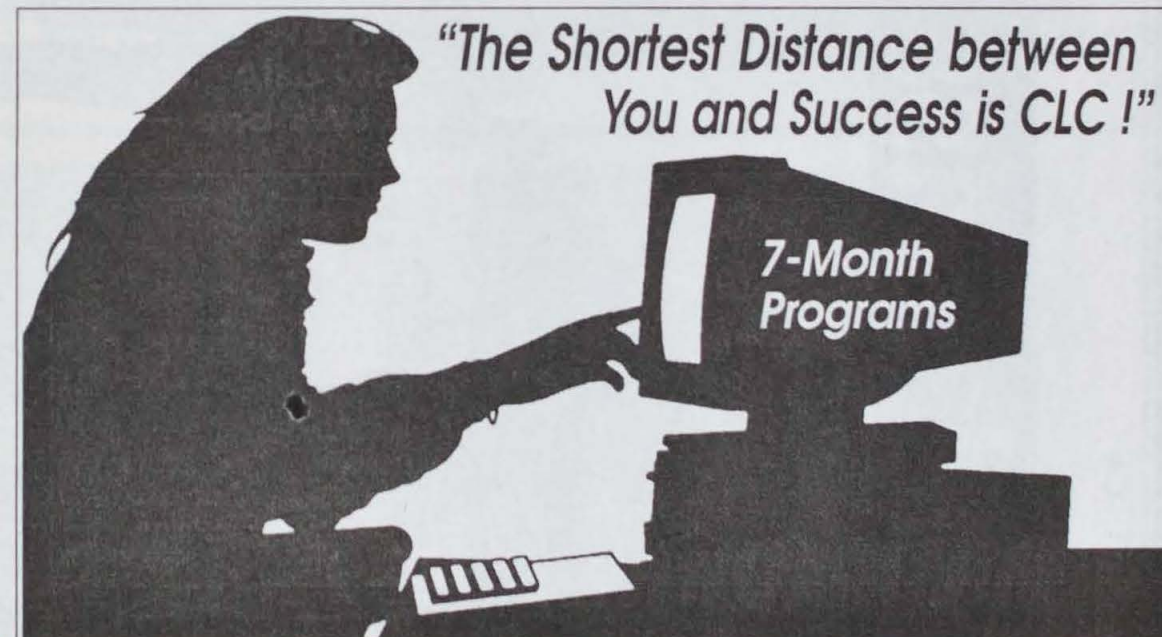
☛ The Network for Organizations in Action (You can call it NOA) is producing a comic designed to show the evils of drugs and guns. One of the most important facts is that the characters are made by inner-city youth, who learn the mechanics of how a comic book is created and marketed. The Executive Director of NOA, Bruce Graham gave *New Expression* insight on NOA's beginnings and plans for the future.

NOA began in February 1994. The comic book project, however, didn't take shape until June 1994. Graham, a former private investigator became interested after reading a *Chicago Tribune* article about the rising gang violence. "If all of us just tried to find out what we could do, maybe something could be done for the kids in the inner-city."

Well this is for Virtual Reality. We wanna thank ByDFault, Matrix, Mayhem, FREE WillEE, and Auto1, and a special thanks to D.Sykes for stickin' with us and thank you for reading and responding.. Hey, if you want more info, game reviews and tons of tricks, subscribe to Reality Bytes. It's free and it comes straight to your home- even in the summer. Just write to NE/Reality Bytes, 78 east Lake suite 815, Chicago IL 60601

In June check-out the review of BrainDead 13 and the most codes and tricks we've ever printed!

In mid-July read about the latest MK3 upgrade, reviews the first Sega Saturn games, and we give away a CD!



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# Critical mass

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## Teen fathers

Fatherhood is serious business.

Unfortunately, Many teen "fathers" run from responsibility, saying "I'm not married, the baby didn't come for me, I don't have to be the mother." Or, "Just drop the baby off once a month."

That shows you the difference between daddies and fathers. Anyone can be a father, it takes a special person to be a daddy. A daddy takes care of his child with love and financial support; whereas, a father's contribution ends in making the baby.

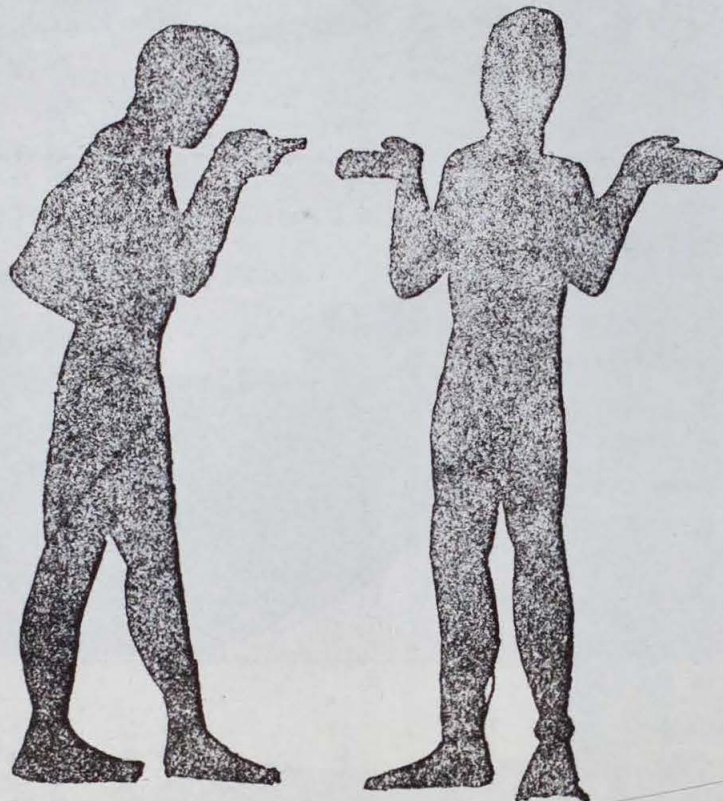
I have spoken to many teen fathers and here are some of their thoughts:

Father one: "I have a child who is going on two. I don't see her that much because the mother and I don't get along, so therefore I only buy her clothes. As far as spending time with her, her mother takes care of that."

Father two: "All my baby does is cry, cry, cry. I pick her up and drop her right off at my mother's house. I have bought things for her, but now I let my mother do it all."

Father three: "Man, to tell you the truth, I don't know if I have kids. I really don't care. There's three females who claim that I am the father, but I'm not having it."

Father four: "Right



now, I have three kids and one I'm not sure about. They're all by different girls, the eldest I see sometimes, the other two not hardly anytime — but, I have bought them outfits before."

Father five: "I have a little girl who means a lot to me but I don't see her that much because I work and go to school everyday, but I do make sure she is strapped."

Father six: "I have a two-year-old boy, and a one week old boy. Right now, the two year old is living with me and the one week old is with his mother. I know what it feels like to be responsible. I do everything, wash his clothes, give him baths, take him outside, get him dressed, feed him and put him to sleep. Sometimes I get frustrated, but I have help from my moms. My girlfriend's on

her own for a while so that's life."

As I spoke with teen fathers, I got a lot of negative reactions, some avoided certain questions, some repeated the same words over again, and some told the plain and simple truth, "I don't have to do anything, or say anything I don't want to."

As you can see, we have some good teen fathers and some who really don't know what responsibility is all about. Most of them felt that being a father only meant "buy clothes for the baby."

If you are a teen father, what does it mean to you? Would you say you are being responsible?

**Tanisha Johnson,  
St. Gregory**

## Good Lovin' Gone Bad

You've met him, the perfect young man. He's nice, sweet and intelligent. You look forward to seeing him each day from across the classroom. At first, you're scared to speak to him and nervously turn away when he looks in your direction. Everyday, you practice words you'd like to say, but they never come out at the right moment. But, he beats you to the punch. Since the Science Fair is right around the corner ... and ... since you'll have to spend most weekends at the library ... he asked if you would accompany him. Of course you gave him a definite yes! Days went by and you started to see a lot more of John. He was everything you dreamed he would be. You can't help but think of that night. All you did was give your friend Robert a hug. You didn't see any harm in it. You just didn't understand why he, why he ...

Most abusive relationships do start off good. But, as a matter of fact, 12% of female high school students will be physically, emotionally, or verbally abused.

Sara's Inn is a domestic violence agency, serving Chicago's near and far western suburbs as well as areas of the city. The executive director, Joan Rappaport, says the agency is made up of "a committed, enthusiastic board and staff; a corps of volunteers who are dedicated to helping domestic violence survivors; and a broad spectrum of donors who believe in what we do." Because of these people, the agency has been around for 14 years and running. If you'd like to volunteer your services, please contact Patricia Zuba for further information call (708)525-8060.

Beshanda Spencer, Von Steuben M.S.C.



**See ya  
next year !**



# THE RAINBOW FLEET



So, it's summer time, and a lot of you are wondering, "Just what the heck am I going to do this summer?" Let's consider the options: you can work, you can go to summer school, you can play sports all summer and get all sweaty and stuff, or you can sit around the house and get fat and lazy. But, I bet none of you considered this: you can sail on Lake Michigan!

This fact (that someone wants to take you sailing this summer) is, according to Edmond Gueringer, a veteran sailing instructor for the Rainbow Fleet, "the best kept secret in Chicago." I know that some of you may be laughing at the idea of sailing, but at least hear me out before you tune me out.

Sailing is a well respected sport. It is politically correct and environmentally correct. And, the Rainbow Fleet exists solely to teach young kids how to sail — they have been doing so since 1936. What's funny about this is even though they have a rather old existence, nobody really knows about the Rainbow Fleet. "They're like the step children of the Chicago Park District," says Gueringer.

Now, we city kids are so quick to call something boring, or say something is for nerds, and we might even laugh at the people that participate in them, but how will we know if we don't go? To quote Gueringer, "learning to sail allows a person to take control of an invisible force, and make it do whatever you want it to do." That's deep! And, that's the beauty of the whole thing! For you kids whose attention span and brain capacity is as small as your pinky finger this ain't for you. This sport appeals to the most intelligent of people. Now, on the other hand, if you have a sense of adventure, and love water, the Rainbow Fleet is for you. With three locations at Burnham Harbor, South Shore Beach, and North Shore Beach, you can get in where you fit in.

Not only is sailing fun, it is beneficial. While speaking to Mr. Gueringer, I was told of an instance where a student was in an interview to go to a selective high school, and things were going pretty bad. But, when he began to talk about his sailing experience, and the times he and his family had been sailing, that was the determining factor of his acceptance. College admission officers as well as employers see things like this on your list of hobbies, and they respect it. If any of you are planning to pursue a career in the Army, Coast Guard, piloting, or engineering, sailing is the recreation for you.

Then, there are the personal benefits. What can be better than sailing on the lake on a nice summer evening with someone of the opposite sex, in their bikini, or swimming trunks, man that's dope! For you ladies out there, think of this, you may not be able to beat your male friends in basketball, but there is no sexual preferences to this sport. Hey, but there's only so much I can tell you on paper. If this doesn't interest you, then go ahead and do the same thing you do every summer. Now, my advice to those of you who are interested is to you get involved. So, potential captains and harbor brats out, contact one of the Rainbow Fleet's harbors today:

**North Shore Beach 742-7861**  
**South Shore Beach 747-6629**  
**Burnham Harbor 747-7684**

Rodell Dawson, Von Stuben



"Learning to sail allows a person to take control of an invisible force, and make it do whatever you want it to do."



"Let's consider the options: you can work, you can go to summer school, you can play sports all summer and get sweaty and stuff, or you can sit around the house and get fat and lazy. —I bet none of you considered this."

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CLASS  
OF 1995  
AND THE  
FUTURE  
LEADERS  
OF CHICAGO.  
GOOD LUCK!**





## Poet tree

### Whispers

We look into the heavens  
for something to separate our  
past from our future and  
reveal what's cloaked between the stars.

We turn ears to the wind  
listening for whispered messages  
from the time glacier rivers  
fed an ocean of ice where  
our houses now stand.

We search vaulted faces for  
locked truths, keys missing.  
We follow many trails but the  
best are those we make ourselves.

Lekeisha McGee, Harlan H.S

### Paranoia

Staring into an empty space  
seeing nothing but the reflection of my face  
suddenly, I get this feeling.  
I feel that I'm being stared upon.

A flaming hot sensation rushes to my head  
It's as if their eyes were making a hole in my  
skull.

I can't take it anymore  
I must get up and confront them, tell them,  
show them that this is not a great feeling.

But do I? No I just stay sitting in my seat  
staring into an empty space  
seeing nothing but the reflection of my face.

Yvette Presberry, Lane Tech

### Sensations of Realty

I see the pain in the eyes of another  
My lover, My friend, My pal, My brother  
I hear the gunshots fired through the silent clear night  
while lying in bed I grasp my pillow in fright  
I feel the sadness of children whose families they mourn  
their broken aching hearts so tattered torn  
I smell the blood of my people, shattered on the street  
I began to run, I pick up my feet  
I taste the saltiness in the bitter tears I cry  
While I sit down thinking things over and asking myself why?

Nikita Dixon, Manley H.S

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the price is right. So I give SIUE a  
big Thumbs Up."

Elizabeth Eble, freshman from  
Belleville, Ill.: "The campus is lush  
with greenery, yet it's close to St.  
Louis and its employment oppor-  
tunities. I give SIUE Thumbs Up.  
But to appreciate it, you must see  
it for yourself."

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# MAY WRITING CONTEST

SALUTE TO SENIORS 1995

19

Write a letter to your parents telling them something you've been wanting to tell them but never had the chance

## First Place

Dear Mom,

Do you remember that glass container shaped like a swan that ... Well, let me say that your outfit looks nice today! Well, I guess you remember that I asked to borrow something from it, and you said no. Well ... you see there was this large spaceship that like... well I might as well just tell you the truth. Even though you said no, I still went to borrow it after you left. When, I went to put it back, I kind um ... pushed it too far back and couldn't reach it. So, I was sliding it off, when I heard someone coming. So, I looked away and it fell and broke to pieces. So, I cleaned it up as fast as I could and I put your stuff in with another container. But since you didn't notice, no hard feelings, okay!

P.S. I found out it was my sister I heard coming!

Sara Turkin, Von Steuben

## Second Place

Something that I wanted to tell my mother that I never told her before is that I hate her sweet potato pie. She makes sweet potato pie every holiday and I eat it to make her feel good, but I think it really stinks. Every holiday she says, "Quentin, how is the pie?" I say, "Just fine, Mom," but I really don't mean that. I really hate it, but she really does make some good carmel cake.

Quentin Anderson

## Third Place

Dear Dad

Theres been something I've been dying to tell you. You're a cool guy, but sometimes when we're going places you can leave your cowboy boots at home. For one they make too much noise and the other thing is that their just not happening.

Your son



## So Many Times in Love

Once in love

Twice in love

Three times never works in love

you give a boy all the chances in the world but it never seems to fail in love.

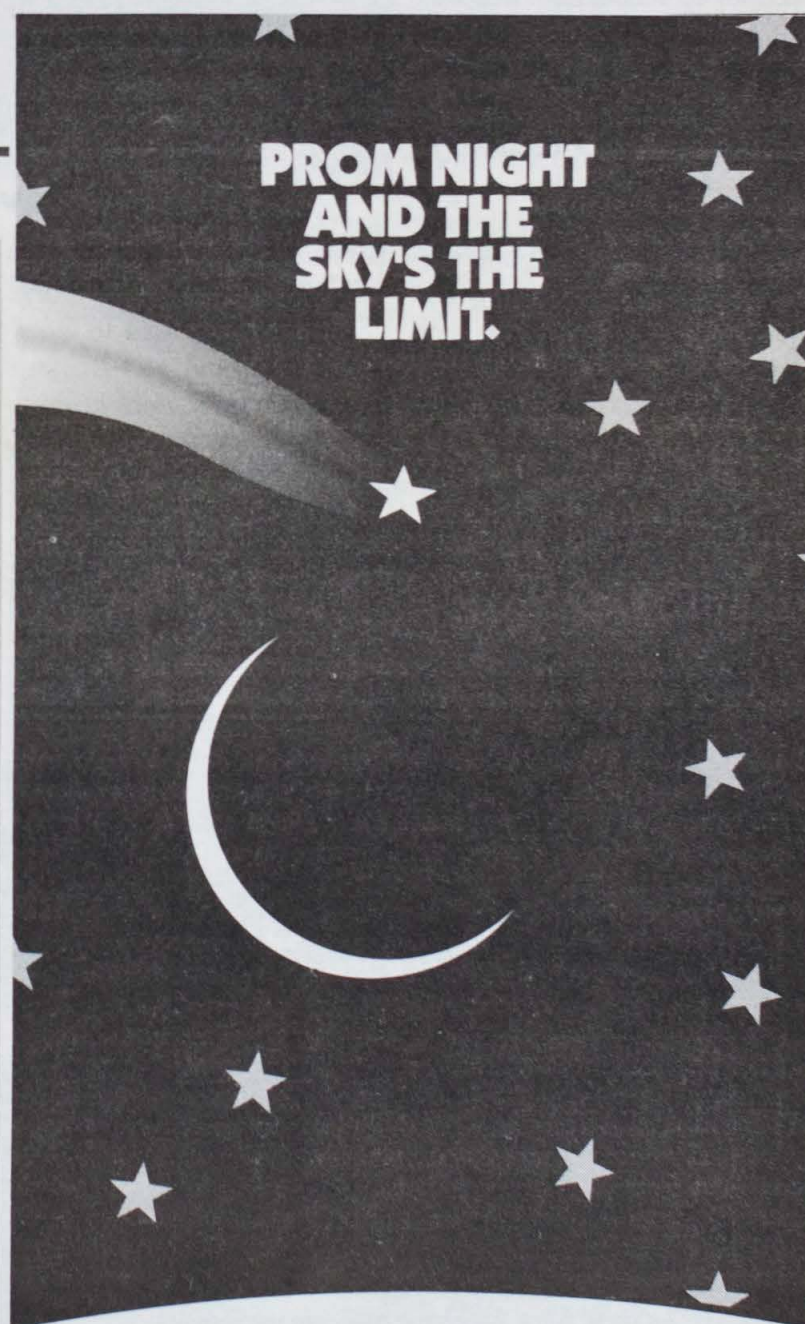
The one fatal moment in love is where the love ends and there's no way to begin in love what will always end in love.

Nicole Blair, South South

## Untitled

Kissing is a pleasure,  
sex is a shame;  
guys get the pleasure,  
girls get the blame.  
One night of loving,  
nine months of pain,  
three days in the hospital  
with a baby to name.  
The guys say you're  
sweet,  
the guys say you're fine,  
but when you say you're  
pregnant,  
they say it's not mine.

Sarah Anane



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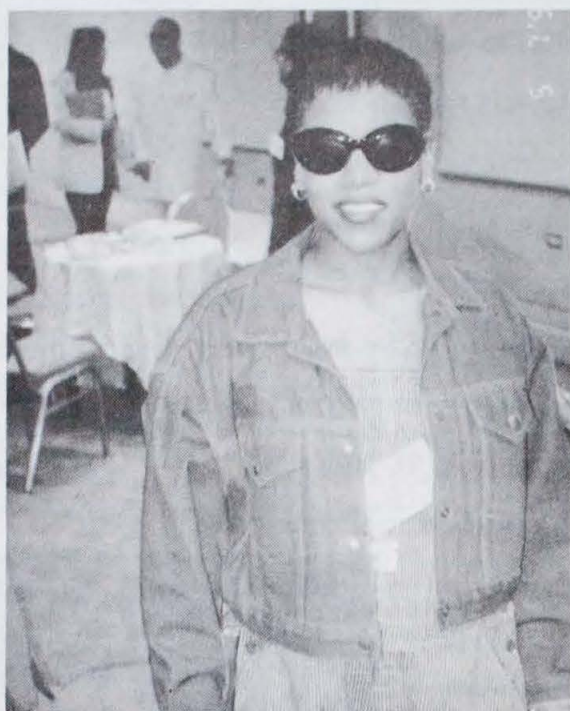
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# BACKSTAGE with Marvin Patterson

WGCI held its 4th Annual Music Seminar, "Making It In The Music Industry." The seminar is for people who are planning a career in the music industry. Some of the hottest names in the industry were on hand to answer questions from potential music makers. At the seminar were President of Laface Records, L.A. Reid. He is, of course, responsible for making Toni Braxton, TLC, and Usher so successful. Recording artists, Brian McKnight, Keith Sweat, Stephanie Mills, Eddie Levert, and Chicago home jams Chantay Savage and Sounds Of Life.



**Chantay Savage**

What is it with everyone going solo? Remember Tony Thompson, the lead vocalist of Hi-Five? You know, they made "I Like The Way (The

Kissing Game)," "I Can't Wait Another Minute," and "She's Playing Hard To Get." Well, anyway, this brother has a slammin' debut album

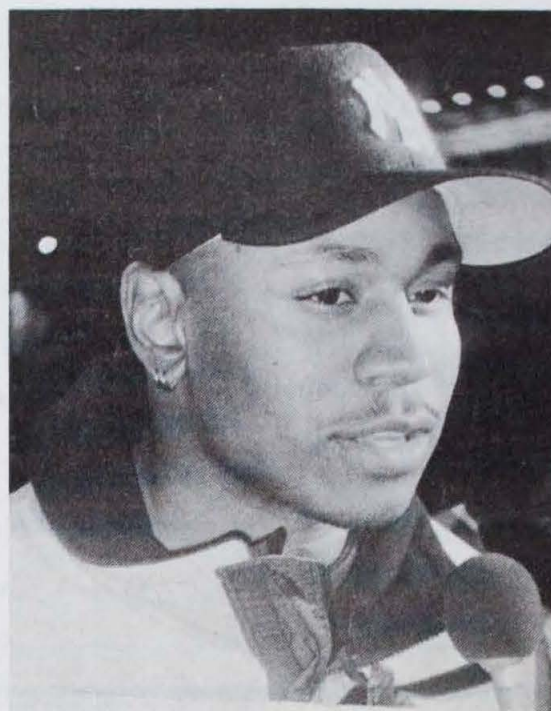
called "Sexsational." It's definitely something you want to check out. His single "I Wanna A Love Like That" is an up-tempo tune that you can groove to. "I'll Be Your Slave" is a nasty single that will also help you get your groove on. Tony also did a remake of Stevie Wonder's "My Cherrie Amore." Tony told me that although it was scary not being with the other members of Hi-Five, it feels great going solo.

Sean Levert, little brother to Gerald and son of Ojays member Eddie Levert, is showing a different side of the Levert family, with his debut album on Atlantic Records "The Other Side." Sean, who's a party man, represents what the young people are into. When asked how it felt working with Gerald, Sean answered, "He's impatient with me ... I guess because he knows what I'm capable of doing. But, I love my

brother and want be like him."

While I was in New York, I visited Columbia/Epic Records and guess who I met ... ? Well, I'll tell you: Regina Bell. I know she's coming out with her album soon. I also ran into 550/Epic artist Jon B, who is produced by Babyface.

Well, guys this is it, after four-and-a-half years, it's time for me to leave. First, I wanna thank God, because he knows me. The Billingtons, because they got me interested in the media. The **New Expression** family, thanks for your support. My family who really cares about me. My friends. You readers. Raymond Boyd for helping with my contacts, Cathy Carroll, Cythia Johnson, Regina Daniels (for being real) and all of the publicists and regional promotional managers that I've known along with their artists, thank you and God Bless.



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## Orr H.S. students air concerns about midnight basketball league

Should Orr High School continue to have a midnight basketball program? That question was discussed with Henry Clark and others, one of the top administrators of the program. He said, "The program is not geared towards high school students. The hours are late and they have a curfew." The hours are from 10:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. and schools and Park District gyms do not stay open that late (current Park District hours are 2:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.).

Clark was asked about the requirements for the program. He stated, "Only the age limit, which is between 17-27. Only a few teenagers participate in the program." Clark states that the program is geared towards getting young adults off the street, but it should be geared towards high school juniors and seniors.

The final question asked centered around funding for the program. Clark stated that they'll take any donations, but the money mainly comes from private funds. Since the crime bill was passed, the program also receives money from the government.

Other people were asked their opinions. Orr basketball Coach McCaskill states, "The program shouldn't be at midnight, but should be at 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. The main focus of the program is to save or influence as many high school students as possible in a positive way. The program also needs a strong staff. We have got to address the economic issues of the community to solve problems."

Nakia Bland, a senior at Orr, says, "I think it would be a good idea, because it would stop most of the violence."

Knutha Weekly, a junior at Orr, says, "I think it's good because it will keep a lot of kids off the streets like me."

Tim Mitchell, a senior at Orr, says, "No, I don't think so! This school does not have enough money for it."

Lester Watson, a senior at Orr, says, "There's a good side and a bad side to it. But it could be prosperous and positive for youths."

Sylina Williams, a senior at Orr, says, "Yes, to get young people off the street. And, only if they have a good staff."

Qeana Thompson, a senior at Orr, says, "Yes, because it gives the kids something to do and somewhere to go."

Patricia Holmes, a senior at Orr, says, "No, I think 10:00 p.m. is too late for children to be outside."

Katherine James, a junior at Orr, says, "Yes, because most places don't allow it at their school. Our school should."

I really think it's a good solution to have the program at school. Basketball is not going to solve the problem of violence, but it will get the teenagers off the streets. The program should also be in the park. And, it should include counselors, because our generation needs someone to point us in the right direction. And, what about a girls program to get them off the streets? The answer is definitely yes.

Roman Morrow, Orr



## NBA DRAFT PREVIEW

As the NBA draft approaches, there are many questions to be answered.

With the announcement that college notables Jerry Stackhouse, Rasheed Wallace, Corliss Williamson, Scotty Thurman, and Joe Smith will be coming out to take part in the June 28th draft many teams will be looking for instant success.

The Golden State Warriors beat the odds and took the league's number one pick from the Los Angeles Clippers, (last season's worst team, with a record of seventeen wins and sixty-five losses). The Chicago Bulls, who might be looking to trade All-Star forward Scottie Pippen, are also looking for someone to fill that big hole in the center position.

Those miserable Minnesota Timberwolves also need a center to round out a very young nucleus.

With his "Airness" Michael Jordan back in the lineup, the Chicago Bulls also need a power forward to compliment their team. The power forward spot was the only thing keeping the Bulls from celebrating a fourth championship. Toni Kukoc could not hold his own against the bigger and stronger power players in the Eastern Conference. The name that comes to most Chicagoan's minds is Anthony Mason, the New York Knicks' free agent. Mason does not necessarily have the size, but he does have the speed and strength to make the Bulls a contender. Jerry Krause is not known for going after the prize but, if the Bulls are going to compete, he'll need Mason on the payroll.

The citizens of New York are becoming restless — they wonder if their Knicks, after failing to bring a title to the city, can transcend the petty differences that plagued them during the 94-95 season. Experts around the league are beginning to question their unity and attitude as the off-season begins. John Starks drew the ire of his teammates while they were in the middle of their first round series against the Cleveland Cavaliers. Perhaps, this could have been the year of the Knicks if not for team turmoil.

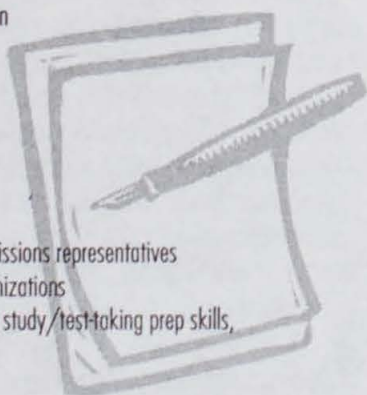
The NBA's new expansion franchises: the Toronto Raptors and Vancouver Grizzlies, may be headed for greatness if they follow the lead of the Orlando Magic. Of course, that's a big "if" because the Magic had the luck to get two number-one draft picks in consecutive years (allowing them to draft Shaquille O'Neal and Anfernee Hardaway). The NBA Draft, like poker, is all about shuffling, dealing, and betting, let's sit back and see who wins this year's pot.



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# I SAY THEY'RE SLUTS!

Ho, slut, tramp, hoochie....

Whatever you want to call it, no woman would appreciate being addressed by either term and no LADY would intentionally put herself in a position to be labeled as such. It's amazing that at a time when so many women protest the sexist images and stereotypes, there are still women who display themselves as sex tools. For example, highly acclaimed actress Sharon Stone's film characters have always been sex driven maniacs or manipulative bimbo's. Many have argued that it's only a character, and some believe it's just a job: a means of getting paid. BUT, EXCUSE ME. You shouldn't have to over-expose yourself to "get paid." Women in these positions have a lot more power than they probably realize or would like to acknowledge. And whether they care to admit it, they set examples, even it's only one person that they've influenced. These women should take on more respectful roles. Just because you can act promiscuous doesn't make you sexy; it makes you seem cheap. So, my point is, if you're a woman, you deserve and should demand respect just like everyone else. But how can you expect respect if you have none for yourself?

Billye Rhodes, Whitney Young



# CHILL OUT!

## THEY'RE SEX SYMBOLS!

Hey people! Why do we label sexy women in movies Sluts?

For example, Sharon Stone has been labelled a "studio hoe" because of her roles in Basic Instinct and Sliver. Some people find the sex scenes to be too explicit. I say that the roles she plays are very sexy and sensual. She is a sex symbol, rather than a Slut. She represents a woman's sexuality and if you can't handle that then don't watch the films. Besides, her characters on film do not reflect her personality. It's



called acting. And, even though it may seem as if all the movies she plays in have erotic love scenes, the scenes usually fit the character she portrays. Stone's image sells the movie. She symbolizes a sexy woman who expresses her sexuality openly, without shame.

In Jason's Lyric, Jada Pinkett and Allan Paine share a pretty heated love scene. However, I don't consider them to be sluts, because the sex scene added a lot of emotion to the film. It was very intense and moving. I see nothing wrong with women expressing their sexuality on screen. Get with the picture—sex sells. You may argue that they portray women as being easy, but that is not true. They portray women as independent and controlled. They know exactly what they want and they are not afraid to get it. Remember, Jason's Lyric and Basic Instinct were box office hits.

"Any Time and Any Place" by Janet Jackson contains lyrics that suggest she would have sex whenever the mood took her. Just because she sings about this does not mean that her music reflects her personality. Janet's album is a number one seller because her sexuality sells and her music is good.

We should not label women who use their sensuality to appeal to the public Sluts because they are not. If they offend you, then you have the right to turn off the screen or radio without the risk of someone labeling you a close-minded traditionalist. They likewise have the right to do sexy scenes or sing sexy lyrics without the risk of being called a Slut. They are women that are fully in control of their sex appeal and they wisely use it to their advantage. They are sex symbols.

Shena Ponder, Whitney Young

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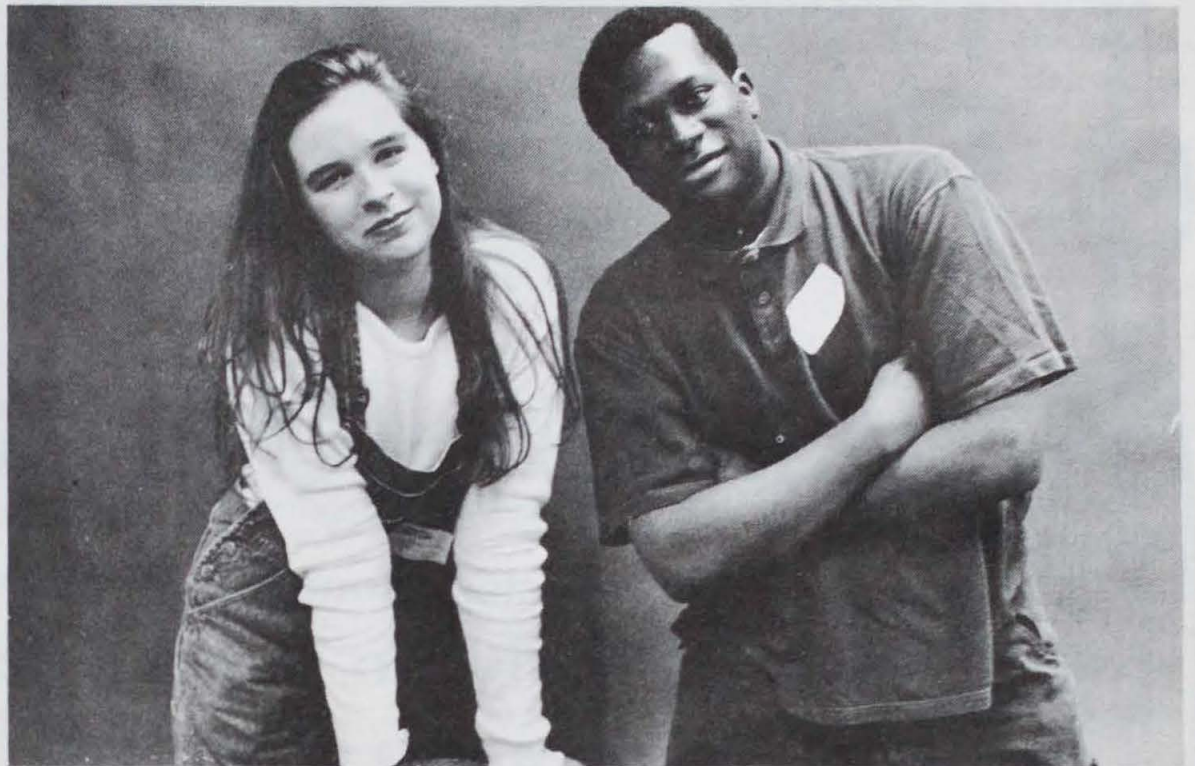
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NE photographers Sandy Struglinski and James Shuford take their turn in front of the camera. If you're interested in being in front of the camera, as in acting and modeling, check out the story below.

Photo by Judy Fidkowski, Daily Southtown

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Remember Michael Jackson's "Jam" video? Or, maybe you remember Anna Chlumsky who starred in "My Girl?" Well, the people who were in the video and Anna Chlumsky are just a few of the people who were helped along the road to stardom by Dan Chambliss.

Chambliss is a casting director who helps find people for videos, movies, and plays. His most recent projects include Beauty Shop 3 and a cable documentary called "Native Son." Music videos he has cast include those done by Slick Boys and 20 Fingers a.k.a. the girl who sings the song "Don't Want No Short Man." Did you know all of the men who modeled in that video came from Chicago?

Chambliss says he is looking for "ready, reliable, and real people." In other words, you need to be on time. No experience is required. The only other thing you need to do is be yourself, whether you sing, dance, act, or even recite poetry.

Talent will be paid! If you want a shot at stardom on the big screen, send your resume and pictures to: Chambliss Casting, P.O. Box 4519, Chicago, Illinois, 60680-4519.

Amanda Veazley,  
Whitney Young





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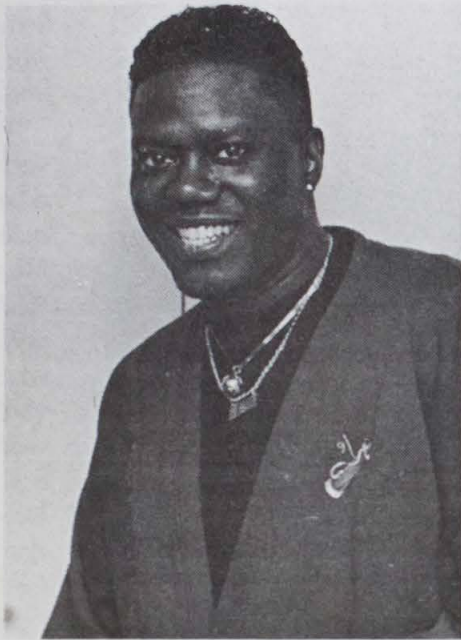


# WHO YA WIT'? Bernie Mac is in the house with NE!

He's the Redd Foxx of the 90's. His wit, charm, and comedic style truly make him a class act. Now, **New Expression** brings you an exclusive interview with Bernie Mac.

**NE:** What made you pursue a career in comedy?

**MAC:** When I was 4 years old, I knew that I wanted to be a comedian from doing impressions of my family and peers. I used to tell my teachers. They'd say, "What to do want to be when you grow up?" Everybody else would say a doctor, a lawyer, a school teacher. I said a comedian. They laughed and said you ain't gonna be a comedian. Because those are unrealistic goals for blacks. If you say a policeman or a doctor that's easily accepted. But if you say an artist, director, or scientist they say, man, you're a fool. I personally feel nothing is unrealistic.



**Bernie Mac**

**NE:** What were some major obstacles that you had to overcome prior to your success?

**MAC:** Personally, the loss of my entire family, being dark (complexed) and confidence. It got so bad that I got self conscious about it. Professionally, I knew that I was talented from doing assemblies (in school) the class always relied on me to do the work. I never had any problems being on point. When my mom died, I changed. I stopped fighting. My grandmother said, "You have to learn to fight with your head, not your fists. Once you learn that, you'll be a dangerous man. Dangerous in a positive sense where you can help and motivate people. That's why you are here."

**NE:** You are originally from Chicago's southside. What was growing up in this city like back in the day?

**MAC:** It was rougher then, because opportunities were not there. We were balled-up in knots. There were rules back then. The new jacks have no rules. Just drugs and gangbang. Brothers were tighter back then. There wasn't all this killing. We were thumping back then. If you got

killed, you must have done something. If you shot somebody, you were blackballed. We considered people with guns punks. They were weak.

**NE:** Does Chicago have it's own style of comedy?

**MAC:** Somewhat. Chicago has much to offer with comedy. Some of the great comedians in history were from Chicago like Richard Pryor, Dick Gregory, Moms Mabley, Pig Meat Markham, and Redd Foxx.

**NE:** You have a nightclub now. How is that going for you? And what made you decide to take on a business at this point in your career?

**MAC:** Me being on the road for 8 years, 5 years really strong. We all burn out. I needed to challenge myself. I don't have an ego, but I have pride. So I said to myself, I said, self, you need to go back to the basics. I didn't want to lose the pureness of dealing with people, so I went back to the nightclub.

**NE:** You've been taking on a lot of acting roles recently. Are you straying away from stand-up? Which do you feel more comfortable doing?

**MAC:** I've been doing it all my life, acting and comedy. It's hard work. I'm never leaving comedy, because I'm always going to affiliate myself behind the scenes. But I'd like to get a couple of movies in, so I can see my family more.

**NE:** In the movie Friday, which is in theaters now, you play the preacher Cleaver. What attracted you to this part? Are there anymore movies in the works for you?

**MAC:** Yes, I have 4 or 5 more movies in the works (that I'm really in the movie). Ice Cube asked and I said yes, if I can help you out, sure. My schedule was hectic, but I said yes. I'm proud of Ice Cube and the movie. He's doing real well. They wrote the part just for me.

**NE:** What do you like to do when you're not working?

**MAC:** I like to laugh. People make me laugh. I like to eat, talking with my family, golf, watching TV and video's. I just like to have fun.

**NE:** Have you ever told jokes about your family that made them mad?

**MAC:** Yep! They're mad at me now.

**NE:** What's on your menu for the upcoming year?

**MAC:** I'm still touring and will have 4 movies coming out. One of the movies, "Reasons," was shot in Chicago and will be out in the fall. I also have plans in the works with HBO to do my Tuesday nights show here in Chicago.

**NE:** What advice would you give to an up and coming comedian about the business and making it?

**MAC:** Believe in yourself, study your act, apply yourself, don't listen to anybody else and be legit!



Roman Morrow, Orr  
Photos by Paul Price, Jr. South Shore

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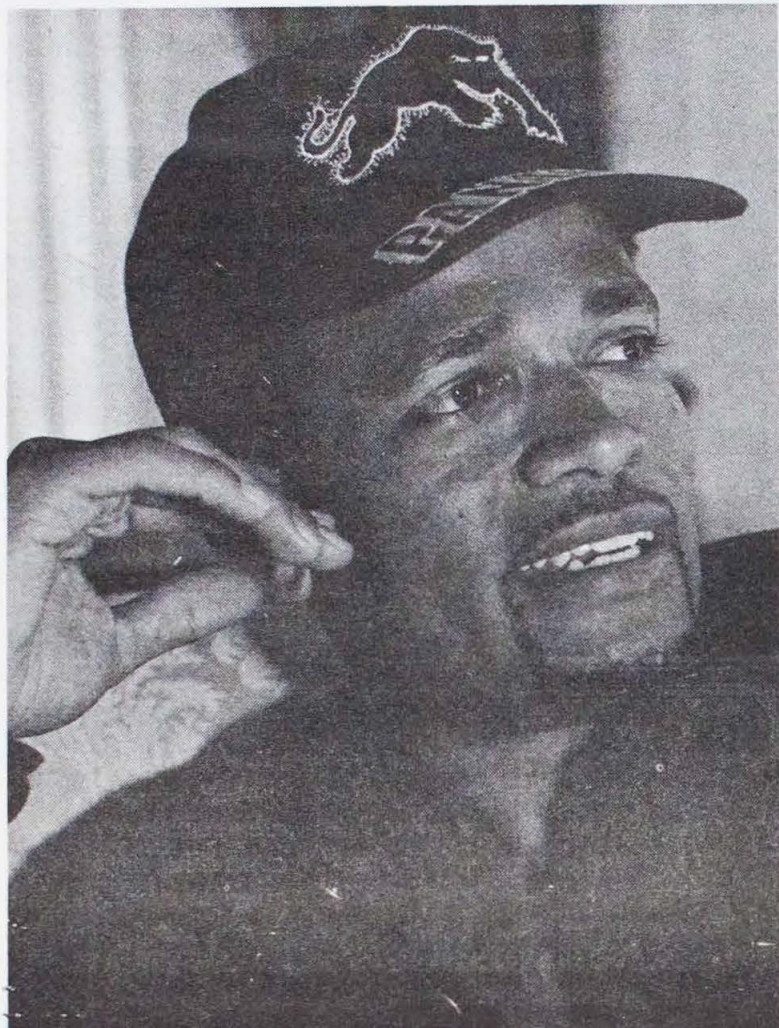


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# THE SUPER MARIO BROTHER

NE's Sheena Ponder  
raps with *Panther* director  
Mario Van Peebles  
about the movie and the movement



Panther director, Mario Van Peebles

Panther, starring Kadeem Hardison, was directed by Mario Van Peebles. In an exclusive *New Expression* interview, Van Peebles related the twin struggles of the Black Panther Party and his Hollywood struggle to get their story told.

In the film, the Panther movement that is usually associated with violence and force is put in another light. According to the movie, the FBI and other US agencies flooded the "hood" with a surplus of drugs and alcohol in order to wipe out the self-reliance the Panthers were building in the black community.

*New Expression's* interview begins where Panther ends — with America's involvement in drug trafficking. "My dad has a theory called the garden theory," says Mario. "Weeds grow in the garden. If we don't uproot or pick them and just turn our backs on them, they will grow. Someone would ask, 'I don't see any poppy fields or gun or drug factories so how do the drugs get there?' Drug deal-

ers come in and they deal with the kids. This causes generation after generation to become addicts, because they are overlooked."

As a result of addressing these controversial issues Mario says, "There have been some real angry right wing groups threatening and calling me, and telling me they're going to shut the movie down." Which would mean all of Mario's hard work going to waste.

"Panther is the toughest movie I've done," he said. "I went to Hollywood with the Panther story and they said that they would have to make it a mainstream picture. I said 'What do you mean by mainstream?' And they said 'Well, we know that the Native Americans were given blankets with smallpox, but nobody's going to watch a movie about Native Americans unless it's got Kevin Kostner in it ... We know that Kung Fu and the martial arts were invented by the Chinese, but the Karate kid isn't going to



Van Peebles discusses issues surrounding his film, Panther.



Van Peebles and NE's Sheena Ponder

be a Chinese kid.' I was really surprised when they broke it down like that, in those words. Then they said, 'Why not make one of the leading Panthers white because they had a lot of white support.' I said, 'No, I don't think so.' So they said, 'Why not make it a story about a cool college student, someone like Brad Pitt, who doesn't like the way blacks are treated so he gives them some pamphlets and they get inspired from what they read and start the Black Panthers.' We didn't want to do it that way so the script stayed on the shelf for five years."

"After I made New Jack City and Posse and those made the studio some money, I suggested Panther again and they said, 'How about another shoot-em up in the hood—you people love movies about the hood.' I said, 'How about Panther?' And they said 'How much would it cost?' I said, 'Well, Malcolm X cost 35 million and JFK cost between 12-15 million, so how about 15?' They said, 'No that's too much.' I said, 'How

about 10." They said, 'No, that's too much.' When I said, 'How about 9 and we get all these great actors (like Angela Bassett, Chris Rock, Bobby

Brown, and Dick Gregory) to work, virtually, for free?' They finally said yes."

Being a Hollywood actor is very difficult, especially being a black actor. Mario says that actors go through four stages: "There's, 'Mario who?' Then, 'Get me Mario'. Then, 'Get me a young Mario'. Then, 'Mario who?'" Being a director isn't very stable either. "My father wanted to be a director and his first stop was Columbia Pictures. They said to him, 'We don't need any elevator operators.' My dad said again, 'No, I said I want to be a movie director.' And they said, 'We don't need any elevator operators.'"

Remember to check Panther out while it's in the theatre. It's a story America needs to hear. And as Mario said, "I'm scared for the future if we don't communicate."



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## call at the house of Usher

adrienne samuels one on one  
with teen idol usher raymond



Usher Raymond and LaFace/Arista Records president, L.A. Reid.

the event that he does hook up with someone in the near future, he has high expectations for a mate. "It takes a lot of time to fall in love. I want her to respect herself and respect me," he said. "That way, I can respect her."

Ladies, Usher is a 16 year-old Libra, born on October 14, 1978. He was raised in Chattanooga, Tennessee and got his singing career started in the church choir (where his mother was the director), when he was 12. From then on, his story reads like a fairy tale.

He was discovered in a talent show by one of the music industries hottest producers, L.A. Reid. After which, he was asked to sing in front of Babyface on the spot. Now he is topping the charts with his funky love song, "Think of You."

He gets his inspiration from a lot of older balladeers and groups like Earth, Wind, and Fire, Marvin Gaye, Jackie Wilson, and Bobby Brown.

"I love the Whispers. If they can do it, I can do it. I look up to them," Usher said. "And hopefully they can help me in the future."

He realizes the importance of having a mentor, someone to look up to. Thus, Usher tries to be a positive role model for all the kids who inevitably look up to him.

"I get a lot of fan mail and they all say that they're my number one fan," he said. "(It's just that) sometimes I have to watch what I do and say."

And Usher is doing and saying a whole lot. Check this: he has plans to get into acting, writing, and theater. But his number one priority is his music. A typical day for him seems to consist of non-stop running around.

"In between vocal lessons, tutoring (yes, he's a junior in high school), and shows," he says. "I don't have much time. But when I do have time, I like to play ball."

But back to the shows, just what is his most embarrassing moment?

"When I fell off the stage while performing with Brownstone," he said. "The spotlights got me messed up." And last but not least, we talked about the infamous concert held at Whitney Young High School in April.

"They gave me much love," said Usher. "The guys, they kinda booed. But it makes me work that much harder — seeing people like that."

Is he ever coming back to Chi-town?

"Yes," he said.

And he is coming back for more than a concert. Earlier in the conversation, I challenged him to a game of B-ball and three rounds of Mortal Kombat 3. No young man can ever turn down a challenge at MK3, especially one offered by a mere girl. I'm sure he'll look me up.

By Adrienne Samuels, Morgan Park

Usher!

Most girls would flip at the chance to meet Usher, one of today's hottest R&B singers.

The sultry voice, the sexy black clothing, the sunglasses, and of course the beautiful smile would cause the most disagreeable person to warm to his winning personality.

And what is all this leading up to? An exclusive interview with Usher Raymond, conducted by yours truly, *New Expression's* roving reporter, Adrienne Samuels.

The powers-that-be allowed me to catch up with Usher while he was at his god-brothers house in Atlanta, Georgia. Though I interrupted him from a good game of one-on-one basketball, he still was a sport and talked to me at length about his career and other topics.

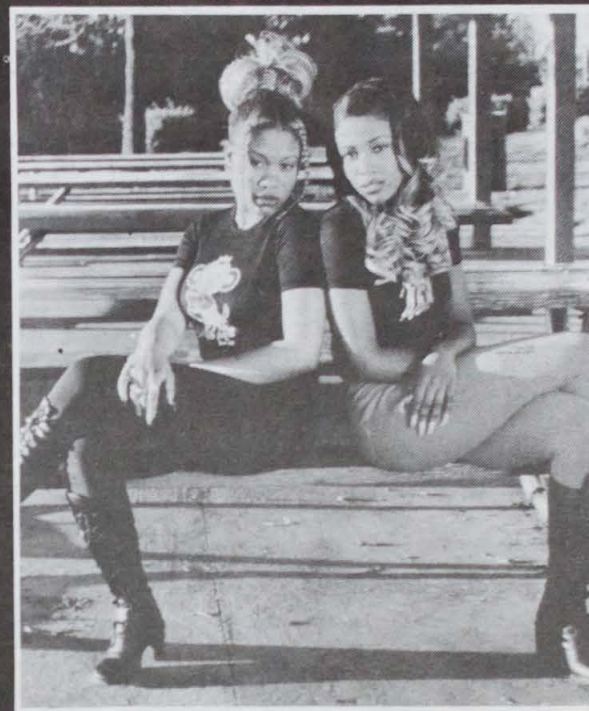
But first things first, I had to know if he had a girlfriend.

"Yes," he said. "... and her name is Entertainment. I wake up with her in the morning and I go to bed with her at night."

But on the serious tip, Usher says he is too busy for a girlfriend just now. He is trying to establish his longevity in the music field and it requires all of his attention. In

## DIS-N-DAT: "BUMPIN'"

THEIR WAY TO THE TOP



Dis-N-Dat

After getting their start on the dancing scene, Epic Street recording artists Dis-N-Dat have brought out a new sound called Base Music. If you want to know what the sound is all about, check out their debut album "Bumpin'." The girls also have a slammin' hit single "Freak Me Baby" featuring 69 Boyz and 95 South. Dis-N-Dat is made up of sisters Tenesia (a.k.a. NeNe) and Tishea (a.k.a. Shay-Shay) Bennett. Both are in their early 20's New Expression caught up with these talented sistas at their home in Atlanta.

NE: How did you come up with the name Dis-N-Dat?

D-N-D: We were the only females dancing in our whole clique. The male dancers started calling us Dis-N-Dat because we complained sometimes, and the name stuck with us.

NE: What type of style is your album based on?

D-N-D: It's more party music than basic [music]. The reason why we call it party music is because it hypes up the crowd during parties.

NE: Who came up with the name of the hit song "Freak Me Baby"?

D-N-D: Actually, NeNe and 69 Boyz came up with the idea for the song and 69 wrote the lyrics to the song.

NE: What's it like to work with 69 Boyz and 95 South?

D-N-D: They are real fun. It's like hanging out with a bunch of big brothers.

NE: Did you perform at this year's FreakNik?

D-N-D: No we didn't perform at FreakNik, but we did have a party to bring out "Freak Me Baby."

NE: Who were some of your influences, past and present, in hip-hop?

D-N-D: Queen Latifah, MC Lyte, and Salt-N-Pepa. Also, Oaktown 357, because they also were dancers before making their transition to being a rap group.

NE: Lately, Atlanta has been making noise from bringing out groups like TLC to OutKast, and from 69 boyz to yourselves. You're blowing up so big now they're starting to compare you to Salt-N-Pepa, how do you feel about that?

D-N-D: It feels good that people are comparing us to them because they influenced us. Being in the same status with them is great.

NE: What are your likes and dislikes in the hip-hop industry?

D-N-D: We like hip-hop, because we grew up on it. But we feel that some hip-hop artists dis base music sometimes.

NE: What goals are you trying to reach in the hip-hop scene?

D-N-D: To have a Platinum single and a Platinum album.

NE: What's next for Dis-N-Dat?

D-N-D: We will go in the studio and work on another album. While, hopefully, we could start producing and discovering new groups.

NE: What advice would you give to up-and-coming rappers?

D-N-D: Believe in God and believe in yourself, because your dreams can come true. Don't let nobody tell you that you can't do it.

Corey Miggins, Harlan



# NE at the **ESSENCE** AWARDS



**Janet Jackson**



**Tyra Banks**

At the 1995 Essence Awards, Essence Magazine, as part of its 25th anniversary celebration, paid tribute to both African American women and men for the first time.

The event was held at the Madison Square Garden Paramount Theater in New York City and videotaped for prime-time television on Fox. Six outstanding African Americans were honored for their significant contributions to their communities, their country and the

world. This year's Award recipients were:

- \* Kathryn Hall, founder of the Birthing Project, an organization that pairs caring professional women with young, disadvantaged "little sisters" for psychological and emotional assistance throughout their pregnancies and during the baby's first year.

- \* Janet Jackson, one of the world's top performers and the first artist in music history to place seven top five singles

from one album on the Billboard pop chart. Last year, Janet also donated the proceeds of a two-day New York City concert to the Rwandan relief effort.

- \* Zoe Jefferson London, a law school student who, at age 21, began a remarkable quest to transform her 12 year-old cousin from a victim to a victor.

- \* MAD DADS, Inc., a group of fathers, ministers, teachers, and laymen who have accepted the challenge of reclaiming the

lives of young black men in their community.

- \* General Colin L. Powell, the former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and military leader during the Gulf War.

- \* Stevie Wonder, the master musician whose blindness has given him a singular vision to match his brilliant artistry. Throughout Stevie's 30 year-career, he has sold more than 70 million LPs and has earned 17 Grammy Awards, as well as an Oscar.

Celebrity performers and presenters at this year's ceremony included Michael Bolton, Toni Braxton, Bill Cosby, Des'ree, Lawrence Fishburne, Samuel L. Jackson, Eddie & Gerald Levert, Jane Pauley, Jada Pinkett, Salt 'N' Pepa, Jon Secada, Will Smith, Oprah Winfrey, and co-hosts B. B. King, Sinbad, and Natalie Cole.

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